

B. Amendment to the Claims

Please cancel claims 147, 152-157, 179 and 180 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Kindly add new claims 181-194.

1-180. (Cancelled)

181. (New) A secondary battery comprising:

a negative electrode substantially made of a lithium or lithium compound negative electrode active material;

a positive electrode comprising a positive electrode active material, wherein said negative electrode and positive electrode are separated by a separator;

an electrolyte or an electrolytic solution held between said negative electrode and said positive electrode;

at least a conductor layer comprising a carbon fiber having a specific area of at least 10 m²/g disposed between said negative electrode and said separator; and

a semiconductor layer comprising at least one element selected from the group consisting of C, Ni, Ti, Pt and Si also disposed between said negative electrode and said separator.

182. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 181, wherein said conductor layer is in contact with said negative electrode active material.

183. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 181, wherein said conductor layer is in contact with said separator.

184. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 181, wherein said conductor layer covers at least a surface of said negative electrode active material adjacent to said separator.

185. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 181, wherein said conductor layer is pressed and secured to a surface of said negative electrode active material.

186. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 181, wherein said conductor layer covers at least a surface of said separator adjacent to said negative electrode.

187. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 182, wherein said conductor layer is pressed and secured to said separator.

188. (New) A secondary battery comprising:
a negative electrode substantially made of a lithium or lithium compound negative electrode active material;
a positive electrode comprising a positive electrode active material, wherein said negative electrode and positive electrode are separated by a separator;
an electrolyte or an electrolytic solution held between said negative electrode and said positive electrode;
at least a conductor layer comprising a carbon fiber having a specific area of at least 10 m²/g disposed between said negative electrode and said separator; and

an insulating layer comprising at least one insulator selected from the group consisting of a halide, a nitride and a carbide also disposed between said negative electrode and said separator.

189. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 188, wherein said conductor layer is in contact with said negative electrode active material.

190. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 188, wherein said conductor layer is in contact with said separator.

191. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 188, wherein said conductor layer covers at least a surface of said negative electrode active material adjacent to said separator.

192. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 188, wherein said conductor layer is pressed and secured to a surface of said negative electrode active material.

193. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 188, wherein said conductor layer covers at least a surface of said separator adjacent to said negative electrode.

194. (New) The secondary battery according to claim 189, wherein said conductor layer is pressed and secured to said separator.